

Application No. 09/342,949

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful consideration of the application.

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-9 and 20-25 stand rejected.

Claims 10-19 are allowed.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Alimpich, et al (US Patent No. 6,344,859 B1) and Aiello, Jr. et al (US Patent No. 6,337,745 B1). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant recites in claim 1, a graphical user interface for providing job tickets and print job information on a display screen for a printing system. The interface includes a depiction of a pathway access window including a print queue icon, a depiction of a printer status window including a printer icon; and a depiction of a job ticket window displaying a job ticket for each print job by selecting the print queue icon, wherein each job ticket is associated with a job ticket icon indicating whether there are sufficient resources to complete the print job associated with the job ticket.

Claim 1 should be allowed as the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. In order to sustain a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) the Examiner must show that a combination of references actually teaches or suggests all the limitations of a claim. MPEP 2143.03.

The Examiner has failed to show that the combination of references teaches or suggests all the limitations of claim 1. For example, in claim 1, Applicant recites "a depiction of a job ticket window displaying a job ticket for each print job by selecting the print queue icon, wherein each job ticket is associated with a job ticket icon indicating whether there are

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sufficient resources to complete the print job associated with the job ticket." Both pre-amended and amended claim 1 plainly recite that each job ticket is associated with an icon indicating whether resources are available for the job. The Examiner asserts that Alimpich, et al. teaches this limitation. The Examiner states "each job ticket in window 52 shows the status of each print job either printing or processing or pending. Also, the operator is able to control printer functions such as enabling and disabling of printers and jobs as well as determining their status in col. 5, lines 48-5 and 59-64." However, displaying the status of each print job is not the same as displaying an icon indicating whether resources are available. Applicants do not understand how the ability to control printer functions is equivalent to displaying an icon indicating whether resources are available. The information displayed in FIG. 4 and listed in the cited passage are directed to printer status. The "job tickets" the Examiner references do not indicate whether there are sufficient resources to complete a particular print job. Indicating whether a job is printing, processing, or pending does not equal indicating whether there are sufficient resources to complete a job. Further, neither the passage nor drawing cited by the Examiner discloses an icon indicating whether there are sufficient resources available to complete the job.

The Examiner has also failed to show that Aiello Jr. et al. provides the elements missing from the patent of Alimpich et al. The Examiner asserts that Aiello Jr. et al. teaches a job ticket associated with an icon indicating whether resources are available for the job. However, the passage and the drawing cited by the Examiner do not support this assertion. The Examiner points to FIG. 25 and column 8, lines 44-48, which reads: "Selecting the view report ticket option displays a Report Ticket window 198 (FIG. 25). The following information about a selected report is displayed: job name; data definition name; form used; print date; print start time; print end time; total lines in report; and total pages printed." The information displayed in FIG. 25 and listed in the passage are apparently directed to a job report that indicates the details of a completed job. The passage and drawing cited by the Examiner do not refer to a job ticket that indicates details about a queued job. Specifically,

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the job report cited by the Examiner does not indicate whether there are sufficient resources to complete a particular print job. Further, either the passage nor the drawing cited by the Examiner discloses an icon indicating whether there are sufficient resources available to complete the job.

For each of the above reasons, claim 9 should be allowed as claim 9 depends from claim 1.

Claims 2-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Alimpich and Aiello, in view of claim 1, and Manglapus et al (US Patent No. 6,219,151 B1). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 2-8 should be allowed as the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. In order to sustain a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) the Examiner must show that a combination of references actually teaches or suggests all the limitations of a claim. MPEP 2143.03. Claims 2-8 depend from claim 1. With respect to claim 1, Applicant has already argued that the Examiner has failed to show that either Alimpich et al. or Aiello, Jr. et al. disclose a depiction of a job ticket window displaying a job ticket for each print job, wherein the job ticket window is displayed when the print queue icon is selected, and wherein each job ticket is associated with a job ticket icon indicating whether there are sufficient resources to complete the print job associated with the job ticket. The Examiner has pointed to no part of Manglapus et al. that discloses an icon indicating whether sufficient resources are available to complete a print job. As the Examiner has failed to show that the combination of references teaches all the limitations of Applicant's claims, the Examiner has failed to make a prima facie case of obviousness.

Claims 20-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Alimpich and Aiello, in view of claim 1, and Manglapus, et al (US Patent No. 6,219,151 B1). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant recites in claim 20, a method for managing resources for print jobs, which includes displaying print job tickets in a print queue, identifying print job information

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necessary to complete print jobs based on contents of print job tickets, prompting modules for resource status information, receiving resource status information from modules, comparing resource status information to print job information for each job ticket, displaying first icon indicating that resources are available to complete print jobs for job tickets, where resources are sufficient, and displaying second icon indicating that resources are unavailable to complete print jobs for job tickets, where resources are insufficient.

Claim 20 should be allowed as the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. In order to sustain a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the Examiner must show that a combination of references actually teaches or suggests all the limitations of a claim. MPEP 2143.03.

The Examiner has failed to show that the combination of references teaches or suggests all the limitations of claim 20. For example, in claim 20, Applicant recites displaying a first icon indicating that resources are available to complete print jobs for job tickets, where resources are sufficient, and displaying a second icon indicating that resources are unavailable to complete print jobs for job tickets, where resources are insufficient. The Examiner asserts that Aiello Jr. et al. disclose a job ticket associated with a job ticket icon. The Examiner mentions nothing about first and second icons, the first indicating sufficient resources are available and the second indicating insufficient resources are available.

In the Final rejection, the Examiner states the following:

Alimpich teaches a printer icon is selected for status of the printer (status of printer of fig. 3), and it would be understood that a printer would include the print engine and the status of printer would include status of the print engine. Therefore, to have the print engine icon in the window for displaying the print engine status in the combination of Alimpich and Aiello would have been a matter of obvious design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art.

However, whether or not Alimpich et al. included an icon representing printer status, the Examiner has not shown that Alimpich et al. included an icon, or in any other way displayed

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to the user whether there were sufficient resources to complete a particular job. The Examiner has shown that Alimpich et al. give general information about the status of a printer, but has failed to show that their patent (or either of the other two patents) discloses information regarding the resources required for printing a job. Further, the Examiner has pointed to no part of any of the patents that discloses two icons, one indicating that sufficient resources are available, the other indicating that insufficient resources are available. As the Examiner has failed to show that the combination of references teaches all the limitations of Applicant's claims, the Examiner has failed to make a prima facie case of obviousness.

For the above reasons, claims 21-25 should be allowed as claims 21-25 depend from claim 20.

Allowable Subject Matter

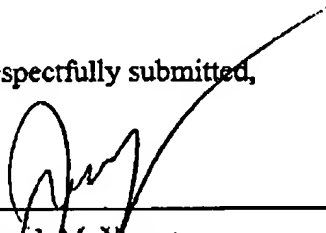
Claims 10-19 were allowed.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments and arguments put this application in condition for allowance. However, regardless of whether the Examiner accepts Applicants' arguments, Applicants feel the Finality of this action is premature. The Examiner was forced to make new rejections in response to Applicants' prior arguments. For example, the rejection to claim 1 was changed to rely upon Alimpich et al. rather than Aiello Jr. et al. to disclose a job ticket icon indicating whether resources were available. As Applicants made no amendment to cause this shift in argument, the finality of the office action should be removed.

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The undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney hereby authorizes the charging of the fee adding one additional independent claim, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. 1800

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE:

IN THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION:

Amended paragraph on page 9, beginning at line 27:

Figure 4 shows a graphical representation displayed on a display screen 59, which is used to reach controls or information related to components or supplies in the digital printing system 10, as taught by copending application Attorney Docket Number D/98736, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [-----] 09/342,713, filed [-----] June 29, 1999, entitled, "USER INTERFACE FOR NAVIGATION AND CONTROL OF A PRINTING SYSTEM". Figure 4 shows a printer status window 70 having a printer icon 72 including feeder icons A-D, print engine icon E, and finisher icons F-J. However, as indicated above, feeder icons and finisher icons can be added or removed so that the printer icon 72 is an accurate depiction of the printing system actually being used by the operator. The printer status window 70 also includes a job progress meter 74, which continuously informs the operator of the total time required to complete a print job (e.g. 33 minutes), the time that has elapsed since the print job began (e.g. 28 minutes) and the time remaining (7 minutes). This enables the operator to make choices as to whether to stop or suspend the current job in order to process a higher priority job.

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IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A graphical user interface for providing job tickets and print job information on a display screen for a printing system, comprising:

a depiction of a pathway access window including a print queue icon;

a depiction of a printer status window including a printer icon; and

a depiction of a job ticket window[display unit] displaying a job ticket for each print job[by selecting the print queue icon], wherein the job ticket window is displayed when the print queue icon is selected, and wherein each job ticket is associated with a job ticket icon indicating whether there are sufficient resources to complete the print job associated with the job ticket[; and

the display unit displaying print job information associated with each job ticket by selecting one of the job ticket icons].

2. (Amended) The graphical user interface as in claim [1]26, wherein the print job information comprises required stock information.

3. (Amended) The graphical user interface as in claim [1]26, wherein the print job information comprises required finishing information.

4. (Amended) The graphical user interface as in claim [1]26, wherein the print job information comprises required resources information.

5. (Amended) The graphical user interface as in claim 1, wherein the pathway access window further comprises a print engine icon, and wherein a print engine information window showing print engine information is displayed when the print engine icon is selected[and wherein the display unit displays print engine information by selecting the print engine icon].

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6. (Amended) The graphical user interface as in claim 5, wherein the print engine information includes toner levels in the printing system and wherein the print engine information window includes [display unit displays] an insufficient resources icon when there is insufficient toner to complete one of the print jobs.

7. (Amended) The graphical user interface as in claim 1, wherein the printer icon includes a depiction of the print engine [and wherein the display unit displays print engine information by selecting the depiction of the print engine].

8. (Amended) The graphical user interface as in claim 7, wherein the print engine information includes toner levels in the printing system and wherein the print engine information window includes [display unit displays] an insufficient resources icon when there is insufficient toner to complete one of the print jobs.

Claim 26 is new.